

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 2, 3 and 6-12 allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's arguments in response filed on January 9, 2008 reviewed carefully along with the applied prior art and found to be persuasive

Regarding claims 1-3 and 6:

An oxide superconductor current lead in which metallic electrodes are provided at both sides of a rare-earth based oxide superconductor manufactured by a melting method, with the limitation "wherein a volume of holes in the joining metal provided at the joint portions is 5% of less of a volumetric capacity of the joint portions, and a current resistance value is $0.5\ \mu\Omega$ or less when a current of 1000A is flown" in combination with other claimed limitations of the base claim 1 has not been disclosed or fairly suggested by prior art of record taken alone or in combination.

Regarding claim 7-10:

An oxide superconductor current lead which is provided with metallic electrodes at both ends of a rare-earth based oxide superconductor manufactured by a melting method, with the limitation "said metallic electrodes and the mating conductors are disposed so as to be overlapped on each other, and a surface area of this overlapped part is larger than a sum of sectional areas of the metallic electrodes and sectional areas of the mating conductors," in combination with other claimed limitation of the base

claim 7 has not been disclosed or fairly suggested by the prior art of record taken alone or in combination.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Claim 6 is rejoined and fully examined for patentability as it directly depend and include all the limitation of allowable claim 1.

As all the product claims including the claims previously withdrawn as a result of specie requirement are allowed, the **specie** restriction requirement mailed on July 18, 2005 is hereby withdrawn.

In view of the withdrawal of the **specie** restriction requirement as to the rejoined inventions, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ishwar (I. B.) Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272 1933. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30 - 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272 1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ibp
April 13, 2008

/Ishwar (I. B.) Patel/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2841